



**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
DIRECTORATE OF FORESTS  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,  
SOUTH – EAST CIRCLE, WEST BENGAL**

**WEBEL IT Park, (Phase-I), 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, WEBEL Office (Near City Centre)**

**Gandhi More, Durgapur-08. E-mail: ccfsewb@gmail.com**



**No: 3097/SEC/2M-10 (ESSAR)**

**Dated: 20/10/2022.**

**REVISED: Joint Site Inspection report of Chief Conservator of Forests, South-East Circle, WB with DFO's and other field officers of Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Division in respect of proposal for diversion of 12.5492 ha. of Forest Land in favour of Essar Oil and Exploration and Production Limited.**

This patch of forest in Paschim Bardhaman is still very dense and is rich in Biodiversity. These patch of forests is the remnant of the dense forests that existed before intensive anthropogenic activities started taking place in the landscape. The JFMCs are sincerely watchful towards the forests and they are very much benefitted from forestry operations which are done regularly and ensures their active involvement in forest and wildlife protection. Elephants take shelter in this patch of forests at times during their movement and in recent times with increase in movement of elephants towards Bardhaman, elephants are guided towards these existing patch of forests only to avoid their movement in densely populated human habitations and to avoid any untoward incidence. If these patch of greenery is tampered with, Human Elephant Conflict shall rise beyond control during their occasional visits. Predominant crop is Sal along with its associates and diversified medicinal plants Akanda (*Calatropis gigantina*), Asamlata (*Chromolaena odorata*), Atari (*Combretum roxburghii*), Bainchi (*Flacourtia jangomas* Lour Raeusch), Kurchi (*Holarrhena antidysenterica* Wall), Nishinda (*Vitex negunda* Linn), Satamuli (*Asparagus racemosus* Wild), Shialkanta (*Mimosa rubicaulis* Lamk), Kalmegh (*Adrographis paniculata*), Latapalash (*Butea superba* Roxb)} have naturally flourished as undergrowth / climbers. Apart from that the proposed forest area is teeming with many Wild animals as follows:

Name	Scientific Name	Status under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
Indian Grey Wolf	<i>Canis lupus pallipes</i>	Schedule-I
Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (2B)
Hyaena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	Schedule-III Part (12)
Wild Boar (pig)	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Schedule-III (19)
Indian Porcupine	<i>Hystrix indica</i>	Schedule-IV (4)
Common Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>	Schedule-II (1B)
Pangolin	<i>Manis crassicaudata</i>	Schedule-I (28)
Civets	<i>Viverridae spp</i>	Schedule-II, Part-II (1A)
Mongoose	<i>Herpestes spp</i>	Schedule-IV (6A)
Common langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>	Schedule-II Part-I (4A)
Common Hare/ Black Naped Hare	<i>Caprolagus hispidus</i>	Schedule-IV (4)



Name	Scientific Name	Status under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>	Schedule-II Part-II 2(C)
Indian Cobra	<i>Nagaspis</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (11)
King Cobra	<i>Ophiophagus Hannah</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (12)
Russel's viper	<i>Viperaruselli (Daboiarusselii)</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (14)
Indian Python	Genus <i>Python</i>	Schedule-I (14A)
Peafowl	<i>Pavocristatus</i>	Schedule- I Part-III (11)
Grey Francolin/ Partridges	Phasianidae	Schedule-IV (51)
Boter/Quails	Rhasianidae	Schedule-IV (57)
Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus spp.</i>	Schedule-II, Part-II (15)

Etc.

05 Nos of the proposed project sites namely EDD-351 and EDD-365 under Durgapur Division and EDI 336, EDI 345, EDI 347 under Burdwan Division were jointly re-visited by undersigned along with DFOs, ADFO and other field staffs of Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Divisions and project proponents on 02-09-2022. All the sites were thoroughly inspected and following observations were made.

**Project Proposals under Durgapur Forest Division submitted by ESSAR**

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count is approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road pipeline)	Remarks
Durgapur	EDD-365	Ukhra	Gopedanga	340	6	346	0.5147	Recommended
	EDD-248		Bargaria	0	5	5	0.0975	The area has been selected for construction of road headed to the project site (outside forest). A portion of the road plan may be modified and a 2 meter diversion towards the left should be done to avoid the felling of old and irreplaceable Sal trees (Ten Numbers). <b>Recommended</b> with compliance of above mentioned observation.
	EDC-364		Gopedanga	0	0	0	0.225	Recommended



Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count in approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road pipeline)	Remarks
	EDC-241		Parulia	60	190	250	0.9595	Recommended
	EDC-411		Banshia	0	0	0	0.3775	Recommended
<b>Proposed for Felling of Total Trees :</b>						<b>601</b>	<b>2.1742</b>	

**Project Proposals under Burdwan Forest Division submitted by ESSAR**

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count in approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road pipeline)	Remarks
Burdwan	EDH-356 (60m x 70m)	Durgapur	Akandara	9	5	14	0.7735	Recommended
	EDN-360 (60m x 70m)		Bandra	806	22	828	0.42	Recommended
	EDN-361 (60m x 60m)		Bandra	622	15	637	0.435	Recommended
	EDE-326 (60m x 60m)		Bistupur	101	34	135	0.4465	Recommended
	EDE-330 (70 m x 80m)		Bishtupur	298	7	305	0.60	Recommended
	EDE-333 (60m x 70m)		Bishtupur	156	120	276	0.794	Recommended
	EDI-338 (60m x 60m)		Bishtupur	256	70	326	0.426	Recommended
	EDI-343 (80m x 80m)		Bishtupur	415	320	735	1.454	Recommended
	EDN-348 (70m x 80m)		Keshabpur	311	63	374	0.85	Recommended
	EDN-349 (60m x 70m)		Keshabpur	99	30	129	0.7475	Recommended
	EDI-355 (70m x 80m)		Malandighi	120	28	148	0.6875	Recommended
	EDN-362 (70m		Rajkusum	138	0	138	0.56	Recommended



Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count in approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road pipeline)	Remarks
	x 80m)							
	EDN-358 (60m x 60m)		Tilakchand rapur	291	25	316	0.68	
	EDN-363 (60m x 70m)		Keshabpur	478	3	481	0.42	Recommended
	EDN-132 & EDN-360 (Pipeline)		Bandra	0	78	78	0.856	Recommended This land is required for installation of pipeline as well as creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .
Burdwan	EDE-127		Bishtupur & Saraswatiganj	0	5	5	0.1175	This land is required for creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .
	EDE-307		Bishtupur	0	62	62	0.1075	This land is required for creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .
Proposed for Felling of Total Trees :						4987	10.375	
Total Felling of Tree=(4987+601)=5588								
Total Land Diversion (2.1742+10.3750)=12.5492								

The site recommended for the above mentioned Diversion

The site recommended for the above mentioned Diversion proposal should be accompanied by an approved Wildlife Conservation Plan as well as Soil Moisture Conservation Plan due to the presence of rich Biodiversity and scheduled Wildlife species in the proposed diverted area and proneness of area to soil erosion and gully formation.

APCCF & Chief Conservator of Forests  
South-East Circle, WB

20/10/2022





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**Gandhi More, Durgapur-08. E-mail: ccfsewb@gmail.com**



No: 2822 /SEC/2M-10 (ESSAR)

Dated: 13/09/2022.

**REVISED Joint Site Inspection report of Chief Conservator of Forests, South-East Circle, WB with DFO's and other field officers of Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Division in respect of proposal for diversion of 17.6962 ha. of Forest Land in favour of Essar Oil and Exploration and Production Limited.**

This patch of forest in Paschim Bardhaman is still very dense and is rich in Biodiversity. These patch of forests is the remnant of the dense forests that existed before intensive anthropogenic activities started taking place in the landscape. The JFMCs are sincerely watchful towards the forests and they are very much benefitted from forestry operations which are done regularly and ensures their active involvement in forest and wildlife protection. Elephants take shelter in this patch of forests at times during their movement and in recent times with increase in movement of elephants towards Bardhaman, elephants are guided towards these existing patch of forests only to avoid their movement in densely populated human habitations and to avoid any untoward incidence. If these patch of greenery is tampered with, Human Elephant Conflict shall rise beyond control during their occasional visits. Predominant crop is Sal along with its associates and diversified medicinal plants Akanda (*Calatropis gigantina*), Asamlata (*Chromolaena odorata*), Atari (*Combretum roxburgali sprengii*), Bainchi (*Flacourtia jangomas Lour Raeusch*), Kurchi (*Holarryhena antidysentria Wall*), Nishinda (*Vitex negunda Linn*), Satamuli (*Asparagus racemosa Wild*), Shialkanta (*Mimos rubicaulis Lamk*), Kalmegh (*Addrographis paniculata*), Latapalash (*Butea superba Roxb*)} have naturally flourished as undergrowth / climbers. Apart from that the proposed forest area is teeming with many Wild animals as follows:

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Common Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>	Schedule-II(1B)
Pangolin	<i>Manis crassicaudata</i>	Schedule-I (28)
Civets	<i>Viverridae spp</i>	Schedule-II, Part-II (1A)
Mongoose	<i>Herpestes spp</i>	Schedule-IV (6A)
Common langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>	Schedule-II Part-I (4A)



Common Hare/ Black Naped Hare	<i>Caprolagus hispidus</i>	Schedule-IV (4)
Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>	Schedule-II Part-II 2(C)
Indian Cobra	<i>Naga specis</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (11)
King Cobra	Ophiophagus Hannah)	Schedule-II Part-II (12)
Russel's viper	<i>Vipera ruselli (Daboia russelii)</i>	Schedule-II Part-II (14)
Indian Python	Genus <i>Python</i>	Schedule-I (14A)
Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	Schedule- I Part-III (11)
Grey Francolin/ Partridges	Phasianidae	Schedule-IV (51)
Boter/Quails	Rhasianidae	Schedule-IV (57)
Monitor Lizard	Varanus spp.	Schedule-II, Part-II (15)

Etc.

05 Nos of the proposed project sites namely EDD-351 and EDD-365 under Durgapur Division and EDI 336, EDI 345, EDI 347 under Burdwan Division were jointly re-visited by undersigned along with DFOs, ADFO and other field staffs of Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Divisions and project proponents on 02-09-2022. All the sites were thoroughly inspected and following observations were made.

**Project Proposals under Durgapur Forest Division submitted by ESSAR**

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count is approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road+pipeline)	Remarks
Durgapur	EDD-366		Gopedanga	636	6	642	0.745	The Gopedanga forest area is significant from the point of view of biodiversity in Durgapur Division (Pachim Bardhaman District). Because of the water harvesting structure created, the area provides a suitable habitat for small wild animals and existence of such wild lives is easily found. The area is both ecologically/geologically fragile as well as it includes fragile lateritic terrain because of which the attention of the team of Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) drawn who visited on 21/05/2022 for possible Soil and Moisture Conservation work. This area in Gopedanga is the last
	EDD-321		Chak Bishnupur, Bargaria, Gopedanga	347	6	353	0.662	



		Ukhra						refuge of some Schedule-I animals in Pachim Bardhaman District. Recent study on a teeming Indian Grey wolf population in the area has been published. Such forests serve as Habitat connectivity of small wild population & a healthy ecological corridor. Hence, <b>Not Recommended</b> .
	EDD-351		Bargaria	321	6	327	0.4575	
	EDD-365		Gopedanga	453	8	461	0.5147	Recommended
	EDD-248		Bargaria	0	13	13	0.0975	The area has been selected for construction of road headed to the project site (outside forest). A portion of the road plan may be modified and a 2 meter diversion towards the left should be done to avoid the felling of old and irreplaceable Sal trees (Ten Numbers). <b>Recommended</b> with compliance of above mentioned observation.
	EDC-241		Parulia	60	192	252	0.9595	Recommended
	EDC-441		Banshia				0.3775	Recommended
	EDC-364		Gopedanga				0.225	Recommended
<b>Proposed for felling of Total Trees :</b>					<b>2048</b>	<b>4.0387</b>		



**Project Proposals under Burdwan Forest Division submitted by ESSAR**

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count in approach Road	Total Number of Trees	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road+ pipeline)	Remarks
Burdwan		Durgapur						<p>The forest road already exists leads to the Shyam Rupa Temple which is visited by many Hindu &amp; tribal pilgrims throughout the year and specially during Durgapuja Festival. The place also witnesses the presence of several old sites having presence of God Idols and ancient scriptures. The temple &amp; its adjacent 'Ashram' has some legends and religious sentiment. In the year of 2017-2018 a Bengal nature trail "<b>Shibpur to Deul</b>" was declared for trekkers &amp; nature enthusiasts particularly because of the diverse nature of the forest and peculiar undulating terrain (Ref: PCCF/HoFF/WB's memo no. 8620/CS/2M-1020/13dt. 17/11/2017 &amp; 1264/WBSFDA/Ecotourism/2017 dt. 08/12/2017. The nature trail is a work in progress in Deul. A portion of the forest area at Deul has been declared as a <b>Conservation Reserve</b> at the same Mouza Bistupur vide Govt. Notification number 1555-FR/0/11M-14/16 dt. 19/05/2017. A part from that the terrain on the opposite side of the road is ecologically fragile and prone to erosion which has led to formation of series of gullies.</p> <p>Hence the project is <b><u>Not Recommended.</u></b></p>
	EDI-336 (60m x 60m)		Bishtupur	369	20	389	0.425	
	EDI-339 (60m x 60m)		Bishtupur	315	5	320	0.855	
	EDH-356 (60m x 70m)		Akandara	9	5	14	0.7735	Recommended



	EDN-360 (60m x 70m)		Bandra	806	22	828	0.42	Recommended
	EDN-361 (60m x 60m)		Bandra	622	15	637	0.435	Recommended
	EDE-326 (60m x 60m)		Bistupur	101	34	135	0.4465	Recommended
	EDE-330 (70 m x 80m)		Bishtupur	298	7	305	0.60	Recommended
	EDE-333 (60m x 70m)		Bishtupur	156	120	276	0.794	Recommended
	EDI-338 (60m x 60m)		Bishtupur	256	70	326	0.426	Recommended
	EDI-343 (80m x 80m)		Bishtupur	415	151	566	1.0475	Recommended
	EDI-345 (80m x 80m)		Bishtupur	1237	169	1406	1.0465	The project site shall be deprived of 1406 no. of admixture of mature and young coppice Sal trees if the project is undertaken. Apart from that, the area also is seen to be very rich in crop density and in general bio-diversity with significant presence of Medicinal plants. MS cutting operations under CAMPA Scheme was done in the area in January, 2022 and the crop looks very promising. Such a large felling of young Sal trees along with associates like Mohul and Piyal is not desirable. The project is <b><u>Not recommended.</u></b>
	EDN-348 (70m x 80m)		Keshabpur	311	63	374	0.85	Recommended
	EDN-349 (60m x 70m)		Keshabpur	99	30	129	0.7475	Recommended
	EDI-347 (80m x 70m)		Malandighi	861	422	1283	0.8865	The site shall be deprived of 1283 no. of mature Sal and associate trees if the project is undertaken. Apart from that, the area also is seen to be very rich in bio-diversity with significant presence of Medicinal plants. Such a large felling of Sal trees along with associates like Mohul, piyal etc is <b><u>Not Recommended.</u></b>



EDI-354 (60m x 70m)	EDI-355 (70m x 80m)	EDN-362 (70m x 80m)	EDN-358 (60m x 60m)	EDN-363 (60m x 70m)	EDN-132 & EDN-360 (Pipeline)	EDE-127	EDE-307							
								Malandighi	313	25	338	0.476	The proposed project site is located close to State Highway and the opening of forest for creation of well pad and approach road is likely to make the existing forest area susceptible to future illegal Encroachments. Hence the diversion is <b>Not Recommended</b> in the interest of protection of existing forest and wildlife.	
								Malandighi	120	28	148	0.6875	Recommended	
								Rajkusum	138	0	138	0.56	Recommended	
								Tilakchandra pur	291	25	316	0.68	Recommended	
								Keshabpur	478	3	481	0.42	Recommended	
								Bandra	0	78	78	0.856	This land is required for installation of pipeline as well as creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .	
								Bishtupur & Saraswatiganj	0	5	5	0.1175	This land is required for creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .	
								Bishtupur	0	62	62	0.1075	This land is required for creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is <b>Recommended</b> .	
Total:								8554	13.6575					

The site recommended for the above mentioned Diversion proposal should be accompanied by an approved Wildlife Conservation Plan as well as Soil Moisture Conservation Plan due to the presence of rich Biodiversity and scheduled Wildlife species in the proposed diverted area and proneness of area to soil erosion and gully formation.

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Durgapur Division

13-09-2022

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Burdwan Division

APCCF & Chief Conservator of Forests  
South-East Circle, West Bengal.